

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL

Third District

JANICE HAHN Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER Fifth District

January 10, 2017

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED** 

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

19 January 10, 2017

LORI GLASGOW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

APPOINTMENT, SALARY, AND RELOCATION REIMBURSEMENT FOR DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

### **SUBJECT**

Recommendation to appoint, set the salary, and approve relocation expenses for Dr. Barbara Ferrer, to serve as the Director of the Department of Public Health for the County of Los Angeles.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Appoint Dr. Barbara Ferrer to the position of Director of Public Health at an annual salary of \$376,635, effective February 6, 2017.
- 2. Approve reimbursement of up to \$25,000 for reasonable actual costs of relocating the family and personal residence of Dr. Ferrer, and reimbursement for temporary housing costs.
- 3. Instruct the Director of Personnel to execute an at-will employment contract which is approved as to form by County Counsel.

### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to appoint a Director of Public Health for the County of Los Angeles; to set the salary for the position for Dr. Barbara Ferrer; and to authorize the payment of reasonable actual costs related to moving the family and personal residence of Dr. Ferrer to the Los Angeles County area and temporary housing rental costs.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors 1/10/2017 Page 2

Dr. Ferrer has full discretion and responsibility for effectively managing all aspects of the Department's operations, including its fiscal and administrative functions. She will work under the guidance of the Health Agency Director to ensure that the strategic priorities for integration set out by the Board are met, and to identify administrative and programmatic areas where better outcomes can be achieved by integrating or consolidating public health functions with the functions of the Departments of Mental Health and Health Services.

Dr. Ferrer has over 25 years of public health experience, including management expertise in public and private sector organizations, focusing on health issues and education. Most recently, Dr. Ferrer has served as the Chief Strategy Officer for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation where she oversaw the foundations' key program areas, including Education and Learning; Food, Health, and Well-Being; Family Economic Security; Racial Equity; Community Engagement; and Leadership. She was responsible for integrating the foundation's focus on priority places such as Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, New Orleans, Mexico, and Haiti with the foundation's national networks. Prior to joining the foundation, Dr. Ferrer served as the Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. Under her direction, the City saw a decrease in childhood obesity rates, a decline in asthma rates in public housing, a decline in smoking numbers, and significant reduction of the infant mortality rate for African-American infants. Dr. Ferrer has also served as Director of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention and Director of the Division of the Maternal and Child Health at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Dr. Ferrer received her Ph.D. in Social Welfare from Brandeis University, a Master of Arts in Public Health from Boston University, a Master of Arts in Education from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and a Bachelor of Arts in Community Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Given Dr. Ferrer's experience, it is recommended that the Board appoint Dr. Ferrer as Director of Public Health, effective February 6, 2017, with an annual salary of \$376,635, and authorize the payment of actual relocation expenses related to moving the family and personal residence of Dr. Ferrer to the Los Angeles County area, and temporary housing costs.

# <u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

Approval of these recommendations will further the County of Los Angeles' Strategy III.3, Pursue Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility and Accountability to continually assess our efficiency and effectiveness, maximize and leverage resources, and hold ourselves accountable.

## FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The cost of the recommended annual salary will be absorbed within the Department of Public Health's current budget.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The recommended salary will provide appropriate compensation to Dr. Ferrer to perform the duties of Director of Public Health.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors 1/10/2017 Page 3

Suchi a. Hamai

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Implementation of these recommendations will provide leadership for the Department of Public Health.

Respectfully submitted,

SACHI A. HAMAI

Chief Executive Officer

SAH:JJ:SK:MTK NV:SO:TL:mst

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors Auditor-Controller County Counsel Human Resources Public Health